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SATURDAY
OCTOBER 23, 1954

I went around to the Residence this morning. Adenauer and Mendès, in a conference that lasted until three o'clock this morning, arrived, as I thought they would once they had come face to face, at an agreement on the Saar with only a couple of points still to be decided. They are to meet again at 11:30 this morning, and my German contacts say an entire solution will be found at that time and the signing can go forward more or less on schedule.

The ceremony for signatures by the Four Power and Nine Power Ministers had been scheduled for 2:45 at the Quai d'Orsay. It was postponed for three quarters of an hour to enable Adenauer and Mendès to affix their names to the various Saar papers. The settlement will be construed as a victory for the French, and should assist the passage of the "package" by the French Parliament. Adenauer will be assailed by his opponents for yielding the German claim of title to the Saar territory, but Adenauer can counter by saying its final disposition will only be decided by the peace treaty.

The signatories then adjourned to the Palais de Chaillot, where [redacted] the NATO Ministers completed the signing of NATO documents.

I went to a buffet supper at the Embassy at 6:30. The Secretary and his party left at eight o'clock to board their plane for the return home. Foster had quite a talk with me and was [redacted] flattering about what I did — or did not do — in the last couple of years. He is [redacted] happy over the events of the last few weeks, which culminated today, although he would have greatly preferred the EDC solution with the greater limitations it would have imposed on German militarism and sovereignty. This accord will, I believe, be enthusiastically received at home. It accelerates the return of sovereignty to Germany, its entrance into NATO, and relieves Germany from some of the restrictions that would have been imposed upon

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it by the Bonn contractuals. Much will now depend on the behavior of the Federal Republic and on the development of better relations between Germany and France.

The Soviet Government sent a note today asking for a conference of the four Foreign Ministers in November. Foster [redacted] discussed it briefly this evening with Mendès and Eden. He fears elements in France may seize upon it to postpone action on the arrangements we have just reached. I suggested no steps be taken to reply until after Mendès has visited the United States in November. At that time it should be definitely stated there would be no meeting with the Russians until at least the French Parliament had finally ratified the London-Paris agreements. He thought this a good idea.

Eddie von Bismarck and Mona Williams came to dinner with me. They know Onassis, the famous Greek ship-owner, [redacted] well since he has for long been a neighbor of Mona on Long Island. After his family had been massacred by the Turks, the American Consul at Smyrna, or wherever he came from, gave the boy $25.00 to emigrate to Argentina, where he worked as a waiter and at odd jobs until he got into the shipping business. He and his brother-in-law, Niarchos, another maritime tycoon, married two rich Greek sisters [redacted] whose father owned a fleet of tankers.

Mona's late husband Harrison [redacted] for years entertained a close association of business and friendship with Clarence Dillon. It seems Clarence's father, a Polish Jew by origin, [redacted] emigrated to the United States and [redacted] married a lady of Irish extraction, Miss Dillon. After the father's death, the mother changed the name of the two children to Dillon, and Clarence went to Harvard. He married a Miss Douglas. The reason Doug and his sister were born abroad

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was due to Clarence being injured while waiting on a railroad platform one day. The cow catcher of the locomotive scooped up a St. Bernard dog, which was thrown violently into contact with Dillon, knocked him down and gave him a fearful brain concussion. He was eventually cured of it, but the after-effects recurred decades later and, according to Mona, are responsible for his present bad eyesight.

Clarence [redacted] told me earlier in the evening of the circumstances under which he [redacted] bought Haut Brion. Its owner, a bachelor, had offered it to the city of Bordeaux, to be maintained by the municipality in perpetuity. The city fathers did not like this limiting clause, and the owner, irritated, sold it to Dillon. He says in the early years it was necessary to make large financial outlays to rehabilitate the property, but it has been on at least a break-even basis since before the last war. As is the case this year at Lafitte, he expects the harvest to be large but of poor quality, and it will not be bottled under the Chateau name.

Mona appeared to me [redacted] as beautiful as ever.

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